

America's Leading Exhibition of Dogs of Quality to Be Held Latter Part of Week at Madison Square Garden

ARISTOCRACY OF DOGDOM IS READY FOR GARDEN SHOW

Total of 1,747 Pets in Westminster K. C. Exhibit.

MORE THAN LAST YEAR

Toy Dogs to Be Bench for the First Time in Balcony.

By FRANK P. DOLE.

Our friend the dog will come in for his hours of fame this week when the Westminster Kennel Club will stage its forty-fifth annual show on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Madison Square Garden. That the exhibit will be up to the usual standard there is now no doubt as there is a grand total of 1,747 dogs for 2,702 nominations and these represent sixty different breeds, including eleven in the miscellaneous classes, the figures showing an increase of 133 dogs over last year. This fact clearly demonstrates that the fancy of men and women for their canine favorites is not on the decline.

Of course great credit is due the Westminster Kennel Club in organizing the exhibit and in giving the dog world at large a chance to show its pets and incidentally to capture some of the valuable prizes. The purchase of the prizes, challenge cups, trophies, medals and ribbons is an important item and doubtless the public will be surprised to learn that the cost of prizes and of running the show means an expenditure of \$30,000 before a cent of admission money can be counted. Neither is there any profit out of the show, although few of the members of kindred big sporting organizations work as hard as the powers that be in the Westminster Kennel Club.

In the benching of the dogs this year the management of the show was confronted with a rather ticklish problem. The show hall where the pet dogs were to be shown in all their aristocratic surroundings, the former years, has been transformed into a gymnasium and the little fellows had to go somewhere else. At the right moment the Spratts Company came to the rescue and arranged that the entire troupe of pets be benched on the first balcony, and the cages will be so arranged that the spectators will experience no trouble in seeking out their favorite breeds.

Plan an Improvement.

The plan of showing the small dogs in the main building is thought to be an improvement instead of a detriment, as they will be within easy reach. Heretofore they frequently were mingled, as many were not versed enough in the geography of the Garden to locate the hall. Those exhibitors who are accustomed to bring silk pillows and other stylish fittings for the stalls will be given every opportunity to make the surroundings of their pets as comfortable as possible.

This year every precaution will be taken by the management to insure against the appearance of distemper or any other contagious disease. Every dog on being admitted to the hallway will be examined by Drs. Frank and George Miller, who will act as veterinarians to the show, and as there are to be some English exhibits the W. K. C. are not going to take any chances at the Garden.

Another thing promised by those in charge of the show is that the dogs will be exhibited without the least confusion and as rapidly as they arrive at the entrance. With this end in view the doors will be opened in the forenoon on Wednesday, and competitors will be able to handle the rush. Positive assurance has been given that the entire Garden will be disinfected before a single dog is allowed to pass inside the door. As the show is to be held at the W. K. C. will not be to blame. Exhibitors are expected to be on hand early with their dogs.

Of the sixty varieties listed the shepherd dogs stand out with a total of 152, and this is a glaring instance of what can be done with a new breed if it has propaganda to help. An examination of the entry list shows that the single fanciest breed is the dog breeding prior to the appearance of the shepherd dog. A few might have been slightly interested in other types, but they were never heard of among the front rank of exhibitors.

First Appearance of Type.

The first appearance of the present type occurred at the Spa, Liege, Belgium, in 1892, when it was listed as a "dog wolf," and by that name he appeared on the catalogue, and was exhibited more in the manner of a curiosity than a type of domesticated animal. It was not until 1900 that the dog of the finest specimens to be seen in this country, as well as some crack importations, as the competition for the long list of prizes and big specials is bound to be very hot.

Two breeds which have held their own are the Boston terriers and the wire haired fox terriers. The Boston number 151, while the wire are well up with 115, and the remarkable point about the wire is that they have carried off the mantle in the number of entries, the figures being 588, and this is nine ahead of the shepherd dogs. Of late the wire have been named the "general utility dog," on account of their adaptability as a companion to either man or woman. There are two varieties—the smooth and wire—the latter being more popular, although it requires more grooming on account of its coat.

Among the entries in Coney Island, the winner of the show and owned by Mrs. Roy Rainey. There are a number of formidable opponents, a few of which have been brought over from England by George S. Thomas, who arrived a week ago with a string of eight puppies. Mr. Thomas will show Welsh Bont, a dog, which has won his championship in all the big shows in England, and by the entries is thought to be one of the best wire alive to-day.

There was some surprise among the dog lovers in this country when it was announced that Mr. Thomas should return with so few new dogs, but this should create no comment when it is remembered that high class show dogs are scarce just now in England, and that the English breeders of late have become fully alive to the real value of their good ones. Bargains are not as plentiful in the land of the Saxons as they used to be. On other occasions it was nothing for Mr. Thomas to return with as many as 100 purchases, but not so this year, and it is understood that he was mighty lucky to garner the ones he did.

While some of the classes have given evidence of improvement not a few have fallen off. Why such a change should

Notable Canines That Will Attract Attention at Westminster Kennel Club Show



YORK SAFETY FIRST HAYMARKET FAULTLESS LADY LEONORA



DEBORA VON WEIMAR CONEJO WY COLAR BOY

FIRST REAL TEST FOR LEHIGH WRESTLERS

Meet With Penn State Will Tell Team's Status.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Feb. 5.—Lehigh's wrestlers face the most severe test of the season next Saturday when they journey to Penn State to meet the centre county collegians. Thus far the season has been marked with unexpected success and the state meet is looked forward to as a carnival event.

Following the outcome of this meet Brown and White adherents will be in a better position to predict on the chances of the Bethlehem matmen in the intercollegiate.

With the exception of Johnny Bertolo, captain and veteran 145 pounder, Lehigh's entries in the scheduled dual meet are likely to undergo drastic changes. This is due to the close competition. In the 115 pound class Pete Reynolds, a newcomer on the mat, created a big surprise when in two extra periods he earned a decision over Drew and G. L. Childs, and represented Lehigh against West Virginia, in which meet he won a decision over Sticker. Drew is a sharp, stocky man hailing from Asbury Park High School and Childs, a sophomore who prepared at the New York Military Academy, represented Lehigh on the mat in 1919, wrestling in all the meets and won one point in the intercollegiate. Both the latter are aggressive and threaten to dislodge Reynolds at any time.

"Wait," Myers, a senior, who started wrestling in his first year at college, but was unable to win a berth, looks the most promising of the 125 pounders. His failure in previous seasons is understood, however, when it is remembered that his rival was no other than Kenneth Bevier, an intercollegiate champion. He does not fear the clinch and is being shoved hard by H. A. Church and R. F. Miller.

The veteran of the team is Bob Good, N. J., appears to have this berth clinched and is one of the most promising wrestlers on the squad.

Wire haired foxterriers have retained their leadership in the race for popular favor at the Combined Terrier Clubs Specialty Show, to be held at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory next Wednesday. Unquestionably the terriers are the most popular dogs, and when it was decided to give a dog show for Airedale, Irish and wire foxterriers only the public and length of stops will be at the discretion of the driver.

So far sixteen dog teams have been entered. Manitoba drivers believe the longer distance will aid the huskies of the region, which, they declare, are hardier and of greater stamina than Alaska malamutes. A number of Indian mushers will compete. Interest is already at fever heat and Indians, trap-

pers and miners have wagered thousands of dollars in furs and gold dust on the result.

The race will inaugurate a carnival season at The Pas. The prettiest girl of the region will be chosen by ballot to be \$2,500. Goyen's time last year over 100 to 300 miles. The race will start March 1 from The Pas and will cover wilderness trails to Flin Flon and return and the winner's prize will be \$2,500. Goyen's time last year over 100 to 300 miles was 13 hours and 41 minutes.

New rules recently adopted throw the event open to dog teams from any part of the world. Any number of dogs may be on a team and any type of sled may be used. The same dogs that start, however, must finish. The number and length of stops will be at the discretion of the driver.

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USE OF STOPSHOT IS NOT TREE GOLF

Ribbing Takes Away From Skill, Which Ought to Be Essential of Play.

By JOHN G. ANDERSON.

Change begets change and sometimes chance. For some time now we have been wondering what would be the next item of interest to make good reading for golfers during the months when the ground has been having its quiet smile. Rule changes, amateur definition changes, golf ball changes, competition tournament changes have piled one upon the other with ever increasing force until it seemed as if spring golf was to find the players in a vast unsettled frame of mind.

But there has been a steady in the last week or so, there has been willingness on the part of the Western Golf Association officials to do a good turn to the U. S. G. A. by changing the date set for the Western amateur title play in order that the open championship might be held at a seasonal time. The air is clearing up a bit with the fox left that of the ribbed face clubs, whose sun we rather fancy is now in the West.

Golf, when you come right down to it, isn't such a terribly hard game after all. To be able to propel a rubber cored sphere three hundred and fifty yards and drop it into a small hole in the ground and a ball a few inches in diameter in five shots is by no means a feat to be despised. Yet four-fifths of the time, the golfer who is so successful in the granting that there are no exceptions, is to get the ball out of a deep trap in a couple of weeks with a niblick can be done by most golfers. Wherefore, if niblick, even if niblick, is not a hard ordinary standards golf is not a hard taskmaster.

The very fact that links have to be trapped oftentimes seemingly being a reason is but another indication that the game is not intrinsically difficult. A stilled swing will get results, 150 yards at least, and there was a time, a score or so of years back, when that distance was not considered in the infantile class.

Have Simplified Game.

Deeply scored and ribbed clubs have been invented to make the game easier. Why put all the task on the clubs if less scoring is wanted? The course can be left wide open. But the new idea has been to make the course as difficult as possible and at the same time make the instruments as easy as they can be in the overcoming of the course difficulties.

What has been the result? There are few links in this country which have not been made in less than ten years on several occasions, and there are few, if any, which would not be made in less figures every day in the year if the best players were on hand to make the attempt. And par, it must be acknowledged, after the new yardage changes of a year or so back, demands at all times the full concentration of the player plus his best natural game. Yet the use of the five tooth comb clubs has added more than one would suspect to bring about this low scoring condition.

There would be no need of barring golf clubs which offend in this respect if the club was the controlling factor in the result attained. This is not so. On every "stop" club, as we heard them termed recently, there could well be an indication announcing the fact that while direction was not promised by the use of this club nevertheless a guarantee went with every weapon that the ball would not run after all.

Doesn't that sound like a good deal of skill which ought to be one of the essentials of high or low class golf? Can we say with any certainty that it is all golf when an outside element, almost an influence, too, is present in the balance of half a dozen clubs in the bags of most golfers?

Poor Player Gains Little.

The poorer players gain very little in their use. The reason is, of course, because they err in other ways—topping, in abominable slices and hooks, in half topped shots and the like. But they are the creatures of circumstance. They feel that they must copy the great players who insist that he is benefited hugely by the use of these clubs. They lack the dexterity of meeting the ball, and the sharp blades of the club are not in the turf. "It's my fault, and not the club," they say to themselves, which is only a half truth.

There is speculation, of course, as to the action which may be taken by the U. S. G. A. executive committee with regard to these clubs. Howard F. Whitney, president of the National Association, was quoted the other day as being in favor of some restrictions, and we doubt not that there may be some first under the smoke screen. After all, these clubs are only a habit, and their loss would not be met with any more of disaster than did the changes for the standard ball. To make golf more scientific, which should be the purpose of change, is a reasonable aim. But the clubs would work lasting good.

It would mean we most confidently believe an immediate raising of the general standard of play among amateurs and professionals. Evans and Alex Smith could stop a ball just as neatly with smooth faced clubs as they could with the new ones.

ROD AND GUN NEWS

HIGH WATER FOR LOCAL ANGLERS FROM FEBRUARY 6 TO FEBRUARY 10

Sandy Hook Prices

Wetmore's Prices

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